THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Planning Commission have undertaken a comprehensive mid-term appraisal of the Seventh Five Year Plan-Recommendations about the actions necessary to achieve the growth targets of the Plan are set out in the mid-term appraisal document.

Manufacturing of the Piper Aircraft by Hindustan Aeronautic* Limited

1597. SHRI PARVATHANENI UPENDRA; Will the Minister of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the plan to manufacture Piper aircraft in India by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited has ran into rough weather; 'and

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor and remedial measures taken by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENCE PRODUCTION AND SUPPLIES IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SHIVRAJ PATTL): (a) This question does not arise as Mjs Hindustan Aeronautics Limited have only recently submitted to the Government their report on the feasibility and viabiliy of the production of light executive aircraft based on their discussions with M|s Piper Aircraft Corporation U.S.A.

(b) Does not arise.

Family Courts

1598. SHRI KALPNATH RAI: Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the number of family courts set tfp so far in different States, Statenwise; and

(b) the reasons for not setting up such courts in the States where these have not been aet up so far and by when they are likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI HANS RAJ BHARDWAJ): (a) Four family courts one each in tr<e States of Rajasthan and Karnataka and two in the State of Uttar Pradesh have been set "P.

(b) It is for the State Governments] Union Territory Administrations to set up such courts and as such it is not possible to indicate any definite time by which such courts will be set up in the other States.

Production of Atomic Energy Plants

1599. SHRI KALPNATH RAI. Willi the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:,

(a) the details of the atomic energy-plants in the country which have gone into production of energy;

(b) the quantity of energy expected*, to be produced by them annually and the cost of their production per unit; 'and

(c) how does this cost compare with the cost of {he energy produced from sources like coal and petroleum crude?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT, ATOMIC EVERGY, ELECTRONICS AND SPACE (SHRI K.R. NARAYANAN): (a) There are two nuclear power generating units each at Tarapur (2x160 MWe), Rawatbhatta (2x220MWe) and Kalpak-kam (2x235MWe).

(b) The total energy expected to be generated by all these units during 1987-88 is 5560 MUs. The electricity generation cost in nuclear power stations ranges from about 37 paise|kwh to 45 paisel twh.

(c) ***Tiit*** cost per unit of energy produced at nuclear statio$_{ns}$ i$_s$ comparable with the cost per unit of energy produced at thermal powe$_r$ stations which are commissioned at approximately the same time.

Chief of Antty Staff's Remarks regarding Indian Intervention i$_n$ Sri Lanka

1600. SHRI PARVATHANENI UP-ENDRA: Will the Minister of DEFENCE b$_e$ pleased to state:

(a) whether the Chief of Army Staff has made some remarks i$_n$ an interview in the "Indian Defence Review" regarding the merits $_0$f the Indian intervention in Sri Lanka;

(b) whether thes$_e$ remarks have raised a controversy;

(c) whether such remarks are in consonance with the high traditions of political neutrality maintained by the Indian Army; and

(d) whel'he$_r$ Government ha$_s$ brought 'bis to the notice of the Chief of Army iff?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) to (d) The Chief of Army Staff in hi$_s$ interview to the "Indian Defence Review", had expressed his concern over doubts and reservations being expressed 'n some quarters regarding the presence of the IPKF in Sri Lanka, because such expressions could have an adverse impact on the morale of the personnel of th$_e$ IPKF. His remarks had ^{n0} political bias but were aimed at ensuring that the Defence personnel, because of such discussions, might not have occasion to doubt the legality of their presence in Sri Lanka and the legitimacy of the operations they are engaged in.

For the Chief of the Army Staff the moral$_e$ of his men is $_a$ very legitimate concern. Therefore, the remarks have in no way undermined 'he high traditions of political neutrality of the Armed Forces of 'ie country.

Government 'are aware of some $^{rcac-}$ tioris i$_n$ the pfe^{ss} to the remarks of the Chief of Army Staff, but are not a'ware of any controversy as such.

Refusal to Plan Allocation fo$_r$ Railways

1601. SHRI PARVATHANENI UP-ENDRA: Will the Minister of PLANN ING b$_e$ pleased to state;

(a) whether the Planning Commission has refused an allocation of Rs. 4,300 crores for the Railways' Annual Plan for 1988-89; and

(h) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATfi IN THE MINISTRY OF PLANNING AND THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PROGRAMME IMPLEMENTATION (SHRI BIREN SINGH ENGTI): ('a) and (b) A$_n$ outlay of Rs. 3,850 crores has been earmarked for the Railway's Annual Plan 1988-89. This level of investment i$_s$ considered appropriate to meet the projected traffic on the Railways and the development of the sector i$_n$ accordance with the Seventh Plan priorities.

Indian Casualties in Siachen due to High Altitudinal Problems

1602. SHRI KRISHNA KUMAR BIRLA: Will the Ministe$_r$ of DEFENCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is $_a$ fact ^{tnat} there have been a number of casualties of Indian soldiers due to frost, high altitudinal problems o$_n$ Siachen Glacier;

(b) if so, what is the numbe$_r$ of soldiers who died due to arctic conditions on Siachen Glacier so far; and

(c) what steps have bee$_n$ taken by Government to Tetaove the defiaenciels' in the arrangements|facilities to **fifih*** the clitrfatic conditions at such $_a$ high altitude to prevent the casualties of Indian soldiers?